



July 2005

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Gillmor Washington Update

As your Representative in Congress, I am proud to represent Ohio's Fifth Congressional District in Washington, DC.

In order to keep the citizens of the Fifth District better informed and up to date on my activities in Washington, DC and back home in Ohio, I have published the July edition of my monthly newsletter. It is my goal to provide you with the information you need to stay informed on the issues important to Ohio. In this edition of my Monthly Update, I have focused on the important events that have taken place in the month of June and inform you of upcoming July events in the Fifth District. I hope that you will find this information beneficial. Please contact me should you have any questions or comments.

We Must Stay Positive about Iraq

For nearly two years, we have been faced with news stories about our progress in the global war on terrorism. Many of the stories of late have turned bitter and focused on the misstatements of the House Minority Leader who called the war a "grotesque mistake" and "without success" and an Illinois Senator who compared American treatment of detainees to Soviet gulags and the Nazis. While I acknowledge that this battle has been difficult, I believe it is time to give attention to our victories in Iraq rather than parade around the comments of some out-of-touch politicians and media celebrities which undermine our troops and the job they do everyday in Iraq.



Congressman Gillmor is pictured meeting with soldiers at the Hohenfels Army Base in Hohenfels, Germany.

Regardless of one's opinion on the choice to enter the war in Iraq, now is the time to show our full support for the troops. I recently had a chance to meet with several airmen recovering from war injuries at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center south of Ramstein Air Base in Germany. I also had the opportunity to meet with soldiers at the Grafenwoehr Army Base and at the Hohenfels Army Base in southern Germany where soldiers train at a mock Fallu-

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jahan city. These service members were some of the bravest and most devoted Americans I have ever met. I was proud to meet with each of them and even prouder to know that some hail from the great state of Ohio.

I understand people's impatience with the war in Iraq. I understand their desire to have our sons and daughters back home safe. In this difficult war, we have deposed an evil tyrant, offered free elections to 21 million Iraqis for the first time in decades and stabilized a nation which had survived in fear. Because of the efforts of our brave troops, Saddam Hussein, a leader who started two major wars in twenty years while terrorizing his own people and the region, remains captive imprisoned in Iraq. Because of the United States of America, Iraq is a better place.

Insurgents throughout Iraq continue to threaten our efforts and pose a danger to stability in the region. They fight not for their country, but rather against ours. These groups are increasingly comprised of members from outside Iraq who have been confused by religious ideologies and blinded by hatred. And yet, across Iraq every day, miracles happen. From the restoration of basic needs to the advancement of society, the outcome of our work in Iraq is clear- the people of that nation are better off today than they were two years ago.

While not widely reported, our victories in Iraq are plentiful. National elections, a democratic parliament and the drafting of a constitution are just some of the victories throughout this embattled country. Only one year ago, Iraq's security forces included just one battalion. Today, the Iraqi army numbers one hundred battalions and over 168,000 Iraqi Security Forces have been fielded. But perhaps more important are the reconstructed roads and waterways, renewed schools, soccer matches and a new life for all Iraqis. Our mission in Iraq has been conducted with compassion and it has indeed been victorious.

International Waste Bill Approved by House Committee

This month, legislation which I introduced to regulate the transportation of international waste easily passed another step in the legislative process. I presided over the full House Energy and Commerce Committee while this legislation passed by a unanimous vote. The international waste bill had passed through my subcommittee only three weeks earlier and has now been cleared for action by the full House of Representatives.



I have long held that states should be able to say how much and what trash is accepted in the landfills that they paid for and permitted. Importing foreign trash affects public health and landfill capacity in our communities and states should be able to protect themselves.

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Last year our nation received more than 3.7 million tons of trash from Ontario, Canada alone. This is garbage that must be stored in landfills which our states and communities went to great expense to create. Between 2003 and 2004, Canadian trash exports increased more than twenty-five percent. While Ohio's trash imports are interstate rather than international, foreign waste only compounds the problem. The garbage which overwhelms Michigan causes waste to be imported to other states, causing a domino effect which is having crippling results on landfills in our state.

The legislation which the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed does not ban waste shipments or stop communities from accepting international waste. Rather, this narrowly tailored legislation gives the control over these decisions to our states and the EPA. States are given time to develop limitations on municipal solid waste which has been produced internationally and exported to the United States for disposal.

Creating a Future: Service Academy Applications are Being Accepted

As a Congressman, one of my most important and satisfying duties is nominating young men and women from the Fifth District for admission to our nation's service academies. I am pleased to announce the process is beginning for applicants seeking admission in 2006.

Admission to one of the service academies; including the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the Air Force Academy, the Naval Academy and the Merchant Marine Academy; is a two-tiered process. First, the candidate must meet the minimum standards for admission set by the individual academy itself. These standards include, among others, medical and scholastic qualifications. The second tier is the nomination process.

Items needed for the nomination process include three references, the applicant's statement, a high school transcript and SAT/ACT scores.

It is my goal to have as many young men and women from the Fifth District admitted to the service academies as possible. The only way to accomplish this is to nominate high quality, committed candidates to each academy.

The service academy application process is beginning for any person between the ages of 17 and 23 as of July 1, 2006. Applicants must be unmarried, United States citizens and residents of the Fifth Congressional District, which includes the counties of Crawford, Defiance, Fulton,



Congressman Gillmor is pictured with students he nominated and who have been accepted as West Point cadets.

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Henry, Huron, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, Wood and portions of Ashland, Lucas, Mercer, and Wyandot.

Students wishing to pursue a nomination to a U.S. service academy should visit my website at www.house.gov/gillmor and click on the "for students" tab or contact my office at 800-541-6446.

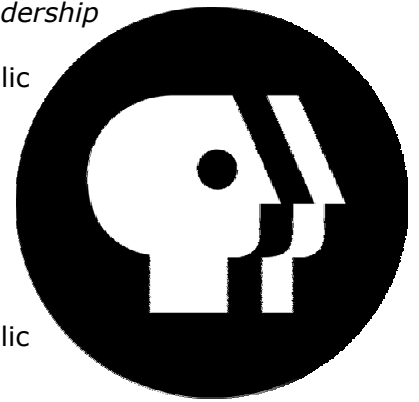
Your Congressman: Receiving the Public Broadcasting Leadership Award

In June, I was honored to accept the *PBS Leadership Award* from the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). PBS is owned by the nation's 348 public television stations and is available to 99 percent of American homes with televisions. Each week, nearly 100 million people are served by PBS programming.

I was proud to receive the Leadership Award from the Public Broadcasting Service. For some time, I have been a member of the Public Broadcasting Caucus where I serve as co-Chairman.

"Congressman Gillmor is unafraid to seek support from both sides of the aisle in the name of public broadcasting," said PBS CEO Pat Mitchell. Mitchell continued to say that Congressman Gillmor is, "an irreplaceable voice for public television."

The Public Broadcasting Service Leadership Award was presented to only two members of the U.S. House in 2005, Congressman Gillmor and Oregon Congressman Earl Blumenauer. The award was bestowed for, "their leadership in championing a trusted independent public service media enterprise that meets the needs of American communities through educational programs and services delivered by PBS and local public television stations."



Congressman Paul Gillmor often meets with groups and families in Washington, D.C. He is pictured here with students and chaperones from Anthony Wayne Junior High School. If you would like information on visiting the Nation's Capitol or meeting with Congressman Gillmor, please call toll-free (800) 541-6446.

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House Passes Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations Bill

In June, I voted to fund priorities in the Department of Labor, Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Education for fiscal year 2006. The Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 250 to 151.



Congressman Paul Gillmor is shown presiding over debate on the Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill as Speaker Pro Tempore of the U.S. House of Representatives.

This bill represents much work by the House to adequately fund the priorities of three important departments within the federal government. In addition to the many programs funded by Congress today, the Labor-HHS Bill goes to great lengths to maintain fiscal discipline. In our tight budget times, I am proud to say that this legislation represents a reduction in federal spending by nearly four billion dollars.

During portions of debate on the Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill, I was also pleased to again serve as Speaker Pro Tempore, presiding over the full U.S. House of Representatives. I have been

honored to preside over the debate on three appropriations bills this year. Funding priorities such as the Departments of Defense, Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Labor and Education are key concerns for the Fifth District and I am glad I have been able to serve in this capacity.

Among the many provisions in the Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill are:

- A \$1 billion increase in Pell Grants with the maximum Pell Grant raising to \$4100, the highest level in history;
- \$10.7 billion in Special Education Grant funding, \$150 million above last year;
- \$115 million for Faith-Based and Abstinence Education Programs, a more than ten percent increase since last year;
- \$890 million for the implementation of the Medicare prescription drug benefit;
- \$1.8 billion for Community Health Centers, an increase of \$100 million since last year.

There are many worthy components of the Labor-HHS Bill. Beyond funding several vital programs within the federal government, we provided a check on many unnecessary and wasteful programs. I am particularly proud that the House has voted to end prescription drug coverage of Viagra for sex offenders through the Medicaid program. Fixing this oversight will not only save valuable funds, it will protect our wellbeing.

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August 1st Town Meetings Scheduled

On August 1st, I will continue my district town meeting schedule in Sandusky and Wood County. I am looking forward to visiting Fremont and Bowling Green to discuss issues of concern with any interested constituent. Because the busy congressional schedule often makes these meeting difficult to plan, I am pleased to have this time to meet with my constituents and discuss the issues which they care most about.

Town meetings traditionally begin with my brief remarks regarding current issues being debated in Congress. However, most of the time at the town meetings is dedicated for you to share your opinions with me.

These town meetings are scheduled as follows:

Monday, August 1, 2005

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Terra Community College
Building B, Room 101
2830 Napoleon Road
FREMONT

Monday, August 1, 2005

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
VFW Post 1148
719 South Main Street
BOWLING GREEN

If you are in the area, I hope you will stop by and spend some time sharing your thoughts with me.

Gillmor Staff Coming to Swanton and Edon in July

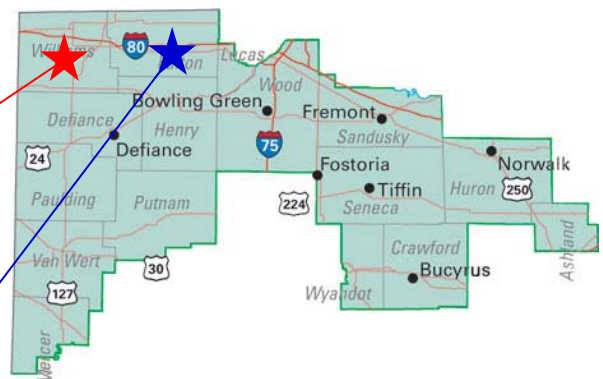
One of my goals as Congressman is to make sure that casework services are readily available to all my constituents. Unfortunately, the size of our sixteen county district makes travel to my Defiance, Tiffin, or Norwalk offices prohibitive for many. In order to ensure that my staff is accessible to all my constituents, I have scheduled casework onsite in Fulton and Williams Counties as follows:

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Edon Village Hall
108 East Indiana Street
EDON

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Swanton Village Hall
219 Chestnut Street
SWANTON



If you are in the area, I encourage you to stop by and my staff will be happy to assist you with any problems you are having with the federal government.

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Contact Me

If you have any suggestions on topics you would like to see addressed in my monthly updates, require any additional information, or would like to inform me of your views on matters concerning the federal government, please contact me anytime in Washington, D.C. or in any of my Ohio offices.

If you wish to forward your questions or concerns via U.S. mail, please address your correspondence to one of my Ohio offices as mail sent to the Longworth House Office Building in Washington is subject to a lengthy screening process and may not reach my office in a timely manner. You will find additional information on issues of federal concern on my website at <http://gillmor.house.gov>.